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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,763	07/14/2003	Jae-Ryong Bum	P23955	4038
7055 7590 09/10/2007 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191			EXAMINER SHIN, CHRISTOPHER B	
			ART UNIT 2181	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 09/10/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/617,763

Applicant(s)

BUM, JAE-RYONG

Examiner

Christopher B. Shin

Art Unit

2181

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9-13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 & 14-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2 sheets</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Du et al. (US 2006/0101175 A1).

Official Notice

- a. Examiner would like to recognize that the, at the time of the invention, the application and usage of the memory types (e.g., pluggable/insert-able memory card types, PCMCIA card types) were commonly practiced in the art of Personal Computer Environment (e.g., laptop/notebook and PDA). In addition, different type USB flash drives are used as well as the above memory types. Furthermore, USB connections between the Personal Computer Environment are commonly practiced in the art. Moreover, internal & external memory applications are equally and exchangeable practiced in the art. For example, one skilled in the art knows that operating systems of Personal Computing Environment can easily recognize and equally utilize any connected memory types (e.g., external memory, internal memory, memory card types or USB flash

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drives, ...etc.). Therefore, utilization of a known specific memory form factor (external or internal) is common choice of the designer/user of the system.

b. In figures 3-5 and the accompanying descriptions disclose all of the substantially identical or analogous teachings as follows:

Claims 1-2Du et al. (2006/0101175)

- Host processing device for reproducing compressed audio data
 - System of figures 3-5
- A body
 - Obvious feature of figures 3-5, (10)
- A memory slot formed in a side of an upper end of the body to accommodate a specific external storage medium
 - [0032], "USB"
- Command input means for instructing the host processing device to execute a specific operation
 - Obvious feature of computer system (10) in connection with (70)
- A system control module for controlling an operation of the host processing device
 - (12/18/18') controller
- A digital interface unit adapted to communicate with the external storage medium through a port formed on an inside end of the memory slot and interface the audio data according to a certain digital interface communication standard
 - Obvious feature of Interconnection between (10) and (70)
- A processing module for processing a command signal applied from the command input means and controlling the host processing device to perform an operation corresponding to the command signal, and requesting the audio data from the external storage medium, receiving the audio data and applying the received audio data to a certain path
 - (12/18/18') controller operating with (70) for accessing MP3 files to access and play music
- A memory unit for storing a program for performing a system operation of the host processing system
 - Any one of combination of memories of figures 3-5
- A decoder unit equipped therein with a buffer to delay a transmission rate and adapted to decode the audio data under the control of the processing module
 - Figure 4, (56) has (60)
- Wherein the specific storage medium is a USB flash disk and the port is a USB port
 - Feature of [0032], "USB"

c. In figures 3-5 and the accompanying descriptions of the Du reference disclose all of the substantially identical or analogous teachings without expressly disclosing the claimed limitation of physical form factor of the memory slot (i.e., memory slot formed in a side of an upper end of the body); however, the above difference does not contribute functional or operational in terms of processing/reproducing data. In addition, different types of memory card insertion are well known and commonly practiced in the art (i.e., different depth of memory slots). Examiner takes official notice on such well known common knowledge in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one having ordinary skill in the art to come up with the claimed invention from the substantially identical teachings of Du reference, for the detailed reason stated above.

3. Claims 3-6 & 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Du et al. (US 2006/0101175 A1) in view of Garritsen et al. (6,732,222).

d. In figures 3-5 and the accompanying descriptions of the Du reference disclose all of the substantially identical or analogous teachings as follows:

<u>Claims 5</u>	<u>Du et al. (2006/0101175)</u>
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- Host processing device using an external storage medium
 - System of figures 3-5
- A medium access module for accessing the external storage medium through a certain digital transmission medium and providing an access to the external storage medium
 - Figures 5A, system (10) accessing memory of (70)
- A signal processing module for decoding media data according to a certain first signal processing method
 - (12/18/18') controller operating with (70) for accessing MP3 files to access and play music

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- A user interface module for providing an interface to a user of the host processing device
 - User Input/Output modules for (10/70)
- A processing module for controlling an operation of the host processing device
 - (12/18/18') controller
- A system memory module for providing an memory space for the operation of the host processing device controlled by the processing module
 - Obvious feature of (10)
- Wherein, when the processing module connects with the external storage medium, the processing access the external storage medium through the medium access module
 - (12/18/18') controller operating with (70) for accessing MP3 files to access and play music
- Reads first file information of one or more media files stored in the external storage medium, and displays the media files on the user interface module stored in the external storage medium based upon the read first file information
 - (202) of figure 2 of Garritsen reference
- Wherein, when the processing module accesses the external storage medium through the medium access module
 - (12/18/18') controller operating with (70) for accessing MP3 files to access and play music
- Searches for the selected media file, loads data of the searched file data onto the system memory module, and provides the file data loaded onto the system memory module to the signal processing module to be decoded according go the first signal processing method
 - (209) of figure 2 of Garritsen reference

e. In figures 3-5 and the accompanying descriptions of the Du reference disclose all of the substantially identical or analogous teachings without expressly disclosing the claimed limitations regarding accessing media files from external storage medium and reading file information; however, the claimed file accessing limitation are well-known in the art of personal computing environment such as PDA and Notebook media file accessing system. As evidence, the Garritsen reference, substantially the same environment as the Du reference, teaches the file management technique of the claimed limitation in figures 1-3 and the respective description sections. Since both the Du & Garritsen references are

from the same filed of endeavor, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the file accessing method of Garritsen reference in the Du reference, for the reasons stated above.

f. In figures 3-5 and the accompanying descriptions of the Du reference disclose all of the substantially identical or analogous teachings as follows:

Claims 3-4, 6-8 & 14-19 Du et al. (2006/0101175)

- Host processing device using an external storage medium
 - System of figures 3-5
- A medium access module for accessing the external storage medium through a certain digital transmission medium and providing an access to the external storage medium
 - Figures 5A, system (10) accessing memory of (70)
- A signal processing module for decoding media data according to a certain first signal processing method
 - (12/18/18') controller operating with (70) for accessing MP3 files to access and play music
- A user interface module for providing an interface to a user of the host processing device
 - User Input/Output modules for (10/70)
- A processing module for controlling an operation of the host processing device
 - (12/18/18') controller
- A system memory module for providing an memory space for the operation of the host processing device controlled by the processing module
 - Obvious feature of (10)
- Wherein, when the processing module connects with the external storage medium, the processing module accesses the external storage medium
 - (12/18/18') controller operating with (70) for accessing MP3 files to access and play music
- Reads first file information of one or more media files stored in the external storage medium, and positions the first file information in the system memory module
 - (202) of figure 2 of Garritsen reference in combination with the obvious feature of copying media files between flash drive and the memory of the personal computer

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- Wherein, when the processing module receives a command to select a specific one of the media files, the processing module searches for and reads data of the selected media file on the external storage medium through the medium access module based upon the first file information positioned on the system module, and provides the read media data to the signal processing module to be decoded according to the first signal processing method
 - (12/18/18') controller operating with (70) for accessing MP3 files to access and play music
- limitations of claims 4, 6-8, 14-19
 - obvious feature of the combined teachings of Du and Garritsen for accessing and moving files between memories of the connected PDA and the host/PC devices

g. In figures 3-5 and the accompanying descriptions of the Du reference disclose all of the substantially identical or analogous teachings without expressly disclosing the claimed limitations regarding accessing media files from external storage medium and reading file information; however, the claimed file accessing limitation are well-known in the art of personal computing environment such as PDA and Notebook media file accessing system. As evidence, the Garritsen reference, substantially the same environment as the Du reference, teaches the file management technique of the claimed limitation in figures 1-3 and the respective description sections. Since both the Du & Garritsen references are from the same filed of endeavor, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to one having ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the file accessing method of Garritsen reference in the Du reference, for the reasons stated above.

Allowable Subject Matter

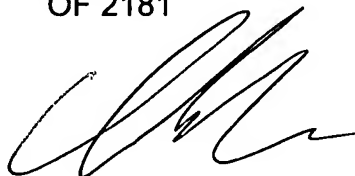
4. Claims 9-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher B. Shin whose telephone number is 571-272-4159. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-5:00 M,Tu,Th,F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks can be reached on 571-272-4201. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CHRISTOPHER SHIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
OF 2181



June 14, 2007